

MINUTES
POCD STEERING COMMITTEE
JANUARY 17, 2013 – 6:00 P.M.
MEETING #4
TOWN HALL ANNEX – COMMUNITY ROOM 2

GROTON PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT (POCD) AND
MUNICIPAL COASTAL PROGRAM UPDATES

I. ROLL CALL

Regular members present: Johnson, Pritchard, Sherrard, Smith, Sutphen,
Kane (6:03)
Absent: Cerf, Marquardt, Rafferty, Scott, Sutherland
Williams
Staff present: Oefinger, Murphy, Davis, Trask

Chairman Sherrard called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of December 6, 2012

MOTION: To approve the minutes of December 6, 2012 as written.

Motion made by Sherrard, seconded by Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

III. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS - none

IV. ITEM OF BUSINESS

1. Report from Steering Committee Representatives

Staff noted that this would be a new standing item on the agenda to provide members with the opportunity to share information concerning activities and initiatives taking place within their particular boards, commissions or departments.

2. Land Use Inventory

Mike Zuba, Milone & MacBroom, discussed the categories of land use including residential, commercial, industrial, public, transportation and open space.

Ali Church, Milone & MacBroom, discussed the method of inventorying land use categories. She noted that this method includes current observable land uses only, not planned or approved projects. She noted discrepancies in data between the 2002 POCD and this update and the slightly different approaches between the past and current consultants regarding different properties.

The consultants discussed the draft 2012 Land Use map as it looks today, noting that it is a draft but sufficient to initiate Steering Committee discussion.

They discussed in detail the changes in land use, mentioning that some changes are due to methodology. They discussed the difference in acreage due to better technology in mapping and change of use due to expansion, subdivision, etc.

The Committee discussed regional comparisons; comparing Groton to Norwich and New London in low density residential, commercial or industrial, dedicated open space and vacant land.

Mr. Zuba discussed the next steps planned for the land use inventory.

A discussion on the refinement of land use categories occurred. The Committee would like to take a closer look at the recreational and commercial uses of certain properties, for example a paint ball facility or a driving range. The Committee also discussed mapping of the border towns and a breakdown of senior housing.

3. Web Page

Mr. Zuba stated that they are looking towards the Spring time to have a public meeting and to have all information accessible via the Town webpage.

4. Contract Coordination for Planning & Development Program

Staff discussed the Land Use Regulation Update Project and noted that roughly 23% (\$21,647) of the funding left from the KKC contract was encumbered for the Milone & MacBroom POCD contract to protect against the loss of funding and to allow land use commissions to complete necessary regulation amendments, special studies and/or other implementation, such as conservation subdivision regulations for example, after POCD adoption. This was prompted by the mandatory requirement to update the POCD, among other things.

5. General Discussion: Project Schedule

The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be February 21, 2013.

The Committee suggested that a good way to generate input and feedback from more people is in the form of online surveys. The consultant is considering this and other participation enhancing efforts.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 7:18 p.m. made by Sherrard, seconded by Johnson, so voted unanimously.

Jeff Pritchard, Secretary
Steering Committee

Prepared by Katie Trask
Office Assistant II